

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

In re TERRORIST ATTACKS ON
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Case No. 1:03-md-01570-GBD-SN

This document relates to:

Ashton et al. v. Al Qaeda, and the Republic of Sudan et al., Case No. 02 Civ. 6977; *Nolan et al. v. Republic of the Sudan*, Case No. 20 Civ. 10720; *Parker et al. v. Republic of the Sudan*, Case No. 20 Civ. 10657; *Betru et al. v. The Republic of Sudan*, Case No. 20 Civ. 10615; *Clarke et al. v. The Republic of the Sudan*, Case No. 23 Civ. 07736

**SUDAN’S ANSWER TO ASHTON AMENDED
COMPLAINT AS TO SUDAN DEFENDANTS (ECF No. 6537)**

Pursuant to Rules 7, 8, and 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and this Court’s November 21, 2024 Order (ECF No. 10552), the Republic of the Sudan hereby answers the *Ashton* Amended Complaint (ECF No. 6537) as follows:

GENERAL DENIAL

Sudan denies that the jurisdictional allegations in the *Ashton* Amended Complaint are sufficient to establish either personal jurisdiction over Sudan or subject-matter jurisdiction over this action under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (“FSIA”), 28 U.S.C. § 1602, *et seq.* Sudan preserves and expressly does not waive any of its rights, defenses, privileges, and immunities, including those based on personal jurisdiction, subject-matter jurisdiction, and sovereign immunity. Sudan denies every allegation in the *Ashton* Amended Complaint not expressly admitted or denied herein.

ASHTON Plaintiffs filed a Consolidated Master Complaint on March 6, 2003 that named as defendants al Qaeda, the Republic of Sudan and others. Service was effectuated upon the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as transmitted by the Embassy of the United States of America, in Khartoum, Sudan on April 29, 2003 in accordance with the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1608 et seq. The action was consolidated under 03 MDL 1570 In re 9/11 Terror Attack. That complaint was amended several times as to other defendants and additional plaintiffs were also added with the Court's permission and order that no additional service on the same defendants was required (ECF No. 247, CMO #2 6/16/04, ^12). The Court set a deadline for the filing of all amended complaints in 2005, and the last amendment was the 6th Amended Complaint, 02 cv 6977, filed on September 30, 2005. When Sudan failed to answer or appear, default was entered by the Court Clerk on December 22, 2011 (02 cv 6977 ECF No. 652). The instant amended complaint incorporates allegations and identity of plaintiff's pled in the 6th Amended Complaint and supplements those allegations herein as to the Sudan defendants only in order to update the prior pleading with changes in the law, along with conclusions of law and evidentiary disclosures made by U.S. Courts, the U.S. government and other parties. This amended pleading is not intended to replace or supplant the operative 6th Amended Complaint, 02 cv 6977, filed on September 30, 2005, as the allegations and claims are substantially the same. Plaintiffs accordingly respectfully request a trial by default seeking judgment against Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in this paragraph, because Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims states a legal conclusion or otherwise does not state factual allegations, and no response is required on that basis.

THE PARTIES

1. Plaintiffs are the surviving spouses, children, parents, siblings and estate representatives of the victims murdered in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United

States (the “September 11th Attacks”) and individuals who suffered personal injuries in the September 11th Attacks identified in the 6th Amended Complaint.

ANSWER: Sudan admits the allegations in Paragraph 1, to the extent that Sudan is aware that on September 11, 2001 there was a terrorist attack on the United States. Sudan denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 1, because Plaintiffs’ characterization of their claims states a legal conclusion to which no response is required and Sudan otherwise lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations.

2. The defendant REPUBLIC OF SUDAN (“Sudan”) is a foreign sovereign state within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 1391(f) and 1603(a) and is located on the continent of Africa and borders the Red Sea west of Saudi Arabia and south of Egypt. Sudan maintains an Embassy in Washington, D.C. located at 2210 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008-2831.

ANSWER: Sudan does not object to the legal conclusion that Sudan is a foreign state within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 1603(a) and admits that it “is located on the continent of Africa and borders the Red Sea west of Saudi Arabia and south of Egypt” and maintains an Embassy in the United States at 2210 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008-2831.

3. The defendant Sudan has, since 1993 and at all relevant times herein, been designated by the United States Department of State as a foreign state that sponsors terrorism within the meaning of the Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 U.S.C. App. § 2405(j); the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, 22 U.S.C. § 2371(b); and 18 U.S.C. § 2333. The defendant Sudan by and through its agents and instrumentalities has supported, encouraged, sponsored, aided and abetted, and conspired with a variety of groups that use terror to pursue their goals.

The defendant Sudan has provided financing, training, safe haven, and weapons for terrorist groups including the defendants al Qaeda and Osama Bin Laden, through its officials, officers, employees and agents, including but not limited to its political entity, defendants the National

Islamic Front, its leader Hassan al Turabi, and Omar Hassan Ahmad al Bashir, the President of Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan admits that it was designated as a State Sponsor of Terrorism on August 12, 1993, but that designation was rescinded on December 14, 2020. Sudan otherwise denies all other factual allegations in Paragraph 3.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. Jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1330, as the claims against Sudan fall within the exceptions to foreign sovereign immunity set forth at 28 U.S.C. §§ 1605(a)(5), 1605A, and 1605B of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (“FSIA”), 28 U.S.C. § 1602 et seq., as well as the exception to immunity formerly set forth at 28 U.S.C. § 1605(a)(7).

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 4, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan specifically denies that the Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1330 and that the claims against Sudan fall within the exceptions to foreign sovereign immunity set forth at 28 U.S.C. §§ 1605(a)(5), 1605(a)(7), 1605A, and 1605B of the FSIA.

5. Plaintiffs further bring this action against the defendant Sudan under the 2016 Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act (JASTA), which Congress enacted over a Presidential veto

to provide civil litigants with the broadest possible basis, consistent with the Constitution of the United States, to seek relief against . . . foreign countries, wherever acting and wherever they may be found, that have provided material support, directly or indirectly, to foreign organizations or persons that engage in terrorist activities against the United States.

28 U.S.C. §2333 note; as a result, JASTA establishes federal court jurisdiction over the tortious acts of a foreign state anywhere in the world that cause injury and death in a terrorist attack in the United States.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 5, because they are characterizations of Plaintiffs’ claims and/or legal conclusions to which no response is required.

6. The defendant Sudan is a foreign state within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. §1603(a), and “Sudan” as used hereinafter refers to its government ministries and other bodies (including but not limited to the National Islamic Front, its Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, Military Intelligence, State Security, Popular Defense Force, Revolutionary Security Services, and its Embassies throughout the world), its alter-egos, and its officials, employees, or agents while acting within the scope of their office, employment, or agency, including but not limited to defendants Hassan al Turabi (“Turabi”), and Omar Hassan Ahmad al Bashir (“Bashir”).

ANSWER: Sudan does not object to the legal conclusion that Sudan is a foreign state within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 1603(a), but otherwise denies the allegations in Paragraph 6, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

7. The defendant Sudan is subject to jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1330 and JASTA’s 28 U.S.C. §1605B, in that, as set forth in detail below, this action seeks money damages against Sudan for injury and death caused by the September 11th Attacks, which constitute an act of “international terrorism” in the United States as defined in 18 U.S.C. §2331, alleges that the September 11th Attacks and the resulting injuries and deaths were caused by a tortious act or acts by Sudan, by providing material support and resources to and facilitating the al Qaeda leaders, planners and hijackers responsible for the September 11th Attacks, and that such act or acts constitute more than mere negligence, and were intentional, knowing, reckless, willful and/or grossly negligent.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 7, because they are characterizations of Plaintiffs’ claims and/or legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan specifically denies that it is subject to this Court’s jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1330 or 28 U.S.C. § 1605B.

8. The defendant Sudan is also subject to jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1330 and 28 U.S.C. §1605(a)(5) and the exception to immunity previously set forth at 28 U.S.C. §1605(a)(7), in that, as set forth in detail below, this action seeks money damages against Sudan for injury and death occurring in the United States and caused by the tortious act or omission of Sudan and/or one or more of its officials or employees acting within the scope of their office or employment.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 8, because they are characterizations of Plaintiffs' claims and/or legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan specifically denies that it is subject to this Court's jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1330, 28 U.S.C. § 1605(a)(5), or the exception to immunity previously set forth at 28 U.S.C. § 1605(a)(7).

9. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act, (Pub. Law 107-42, 115 Stat. 230), 49 U.S.C. § 40101, Title IV, § 408(b)(3), designating the Southern District of New York ("S.D.N.Y.") as the exclusive venue for all civil litigation arising out of, or related to the September 11th Attacks, and 28 U.S.C. 1391(b)(2) and 1391(f)(1) because a substantial number of acts, occurrences, injuries and deaths occurred in the Southern District of New York.

ANSWER: Sudan does not object to the legal conclusion that venue in this district is proper but denies the legal conclusion that a substantial part of the events giving rise to Plaintiffs' claims against Sudan occurred in the Southern District of New York, because Plaintiffs do not allege that any acts or omissions of Sudan occurred in this district.

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

10. Plaintiffs seek such relief against Sudan for the attributable acts of Sudan's governmental ministries and bodies, alter-egos, and officers, employees and agents acting within the scope of their office, employment or agency, including but not limited to the National Islamic Front, Hassan al Turabi and Omar Hassan Ahmed al Bashir, by knowingly providing material

support and resources to the al Qaeda terrorist organization and facilitating the September 11th Attacks, in that, as set forth in detail herein, they:

a. raised, laundered and paid substantial financial support to al Qaeda to fund its budget and terrorist activities, including the preparation and execution of the September 11th Attacks;

b. funded and sponsored the terrorist training camps where al Qaeda indoctrinated and taught their hijackers the skills they used to carry out the September 11th Attacks;

c. provided critical logistical support and resources to al Qaeda around the world, funding safe houses, furnishing false passport and travel documents, transferring al Qaeda money, weapons and equipment across international borders and other assistance, all of which enabled al Qaeda to conduct the September 11th Attacks;

d. actively supported al Qaeda in its preparations for the September 11th Attacks through a network of the Sudan's officers, employees and/or agents who aided al Qaeda terrorists, including the hijackers, providing them with money, cover, advice, contacts, transportation, and other assistance, including militant and terror training and other material support and resources.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 10, because Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims states a legal conclusion to which no response is required. Sudan also denies the factual allegations in Paragraph 10.

11. The plaintiffs who are the estate representatives of a decedent and are listed as such in the caption, have been duly appointed by a court prior to the commencement of this action and have the legal authority to bring this action to recover the damages set forth herein, including wrongful death damages on behalf of all legally entitled beneficiaries of the decedent and survival

damages for the decedent's personal injuries.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 11, because Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims states a legal conclusion to which no response is required.

Al Qaeda's Move to Sudan

12. Osama Bin Laden, with the assistance of Saudi government sponsored charities, created al Qaeda in Pakistan and Afghanistan in the late 1980s as the Jihad against the Soviet Union for its invasion of Afghanistan began winding down.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 12, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

13. In 1989, Hassan al Turabi, Omar Hassan Ahmed al Bashir, and the National Islamic Front installed an extremist government in Sudan via a *coup d'etat*. Within weeks of taking power, emissaries of the new government in Sudan traveled to Pakistan and Afghanistan where they met with Bin Laden and al Qaeda. Sudan invited Bin Laden and al Qaeda to relocate their operations to Sudan. Members of al Qaeda travelled to Sudan for an assessment mission. They returned to Pakistan and Afghanistan and made a positive report to Bin Laden and al Qaeda. By the end of 1990 members of al Qaeda were working jointly with Sudan preparing the infrastructure for al Qaeda's move to Sudan. A member of the Sudanese Intelligence service bought five farms in Sudan for the use of al Qaeda as training camps.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 13, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

14. A CIA report indicated that "Bin Ladin moved al-Qaida to Sudan, at the behest of

the National Islamic Front.”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 14, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

15. In 1991, Osama Bin Laden relocated his terrorist operation from Afghanistan and Pakistan to Sudan and began to use the country as a base for al Qaeda’s business operations and preparation for jihad. Sudan’s intelligence agency provided personal security for Bin Laden. During this time period, Sudan abandoned visa requirements for Arabs and actively encouraged representatives of Islamic militant organizations to live within its borders. Sudan and al Qaeda jointly vetted representatives of these organizations.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 15, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

16. A 1996 State Department fact sheet on Osama Bin Laden described his operations in the country beginning in 1991:

“Bin Laden relocated to Sudan in 1991, where he was welcomed by National Islamic Front (NIF) leader Hasan Al Turabi. . . . [bin Laden] embarked on several business ventures in Sudan in 1990, which began to thrive following his move to Khartoum. Bin Laden also formed symbiotic business relationships with wealthy NIF members by undertaking civil infrastructure development projects on the regime's behalf.”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 16, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

Al Qaeda and Sudan's Symbiotic Relationship

17. The symbiotic relationship between al Qaeda and Sudan allowed al Qaeda a safe haven in which it grew into a complex multi-faceted terrorist organization with global reach. For its role in the symbiotic relationship, the Sudanese government gained the prestige of hosting a renowned mujahideen leader who came from a prominent Saudi family that owned one of the largest construction companies in Saudi Arabia, a cadre of trained fighters useful for the war it was waging on its own people in southern Sudan, and well-funded charities that would support Sudan's military, political and religious goals and provide sorely needed investment funds from the wealthiest country in the region, Saudi Arabia.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 17, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 17, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

18. The CIA wrote, "While based in Sudan from 1992-96, al-Qa'ida was transformed from an only partially realized idea to an international organization ready to operate on its own. A major factor in this development was the education al-Qa'ida members received working with officials of Sudan's National Islamic Front."

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 18, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

19. In a report for the Congressional Research Service, a former CIA analyst wrote that after Bin Laden left Sudan, Hassan al Turabi, "Continues to be politically and ideologically close

to Usama Bin Laden, even though Turabi acquiesced in bin Ladin's expulsion from Sudan in 1996. Bin Ladin sees Turabi as a mentor and an ideological source of inspiration."

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 19, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

20. As detailed below, from its Sudan base, al Qaeda planned and trained for attacks against U.S. interests in Yemen, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania and in the United States itself. The first planning for the 9/11 Attacks took place at the al Qaeda headquarters in Khartoum.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 20, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

21. As detailed below, Bin Laden and al Qaeda's construction projects provided developmental showcases for Sudanese government and provided international cover for al Qaeda operatives to move people and money around the world.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 21, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

22. As detailed below, Sudan also made use of emergency relief projects implemented by al Qaeda-affiliated charities in the war zones of Southern Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 22, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third

parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

23. Central to implementing the symbiotic relationship was the role of the al Shamal Islamic Bank, founded in 1983 by the State Government of Northern Sudan. Bin Laden made his first trip to Sudan in the same year ostensibly for business and agricultural investment purposes.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 23, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

24. The Chairman of the Board of Directors of al Shamal Islamic Bank was Abdel Wahab Osman, Sudan's Minister of Industry, Minister of Energy and later Minister of Finance & National Economy.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 24, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

25. The Sudan-based Faisal Islamic Bank also became a shareholder of al Shamal. The parent company of the Faisal Islamic Bank was Dar al Maal al Islami, registered in the Bahamas but operating out of Switzerland. These two entities were chaired by Saudi Prince Mohammed Bin Faisal al Saud, son of the former King and brother of the head of Saudi Intelligence. Hassan al Turabi held a seat on the board of directors of Dar al Maal al Islami. Turabi's office was the penthouse of the Faisal Islamic Bank building in Khartoum. Faisal Islamic Bank knowingly and willingly held accounts for al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 25, because Sudan lacks knowledge

or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

26. In 1991, Sudan's Finance Minister Abdelrahim Hamdi hosted an international conference in Khartoum regarding foreign investment in Sudan. Numerous Saudi businessmen as well as members of al Qaeda attended. One of the results of the conference was the infusion of capital to al Shamal Islamic Bank and the creation of shares held by or on behalf of Bin Laden and al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 26, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

27. In 1996, coincident with Bin Laden's departure from Sudan, Adel Abdul Jalil Batterjee, a Saudi businessman with no prior experience in banking, became al Shamal's chairman. Batterjee did, however, have experience with al Qaeda. Batterjee was the founder of Saudi charity Lajnat al Bir and its successor the Benevolence International Foundation (BIF). Both were affiliated with Saudi-based World Assembly of Muslim Youth. Lajnat al Bir supported al Qaeda in Pakistan and as noted below BIF supported al Qaeda in Sudan. BIF became the largest shareholder of al Shamal Islamic Bank and kept its account there. Batterjee and the Benevolence International Foundation were eventually listed as Specially Designated Global Terrorists by the U.S. Government for their roles as supporters of al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 27, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations

as to Sudan.

28. An al Qaeda defector told U.S. law enforcement that Bin Laden and at least six al Qaeda operatives held bank accounts in al Shamal Islamic Bank. In testimony at the criminal trial of the 1998 African Embassy bombers, the same defector, Jamal al Fadl, testified that al Qaeda members received monthly checks from al Shamal Islamic Bank and that he transferred funds from al Shamal Islamic Bank to support al Qaeda's overseas operations and procurement, including transfers to the United States. In 1993, \$250,000 was wired from the al Shamal Islamic Bank account of al Qaeda's corporate entity, Wadi al Aqiq, via Bank of New York, to a Bank of America account in Dallas, Texas held by an associate of Bin Laden - where he used it to buy a plane in Tucson, Arizona. The plane was then flown to Khartoum.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 28, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

29. Al Shamal Islamic Bank held accounts for al Qaeda companies including Wadi al Aqiq, Rowad Development and al Hijrah Construction. These businesses enriched the National Islamic Front and solidified its hold on power while at the same time providing employment to the al Qaeda Afghan veterans. The corporate entities also provided the perception of a legitimate front which masked al Qaeda's preparations for terror.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 29, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

30. While al Shamal Bank was used largely for international transactions, al Qaeda also

needed a domestic bank to handle its local business. In 1991 the NIF and Bin Laden established Bank al Muzare aka Farmers Commercial Bank. As detailed below, the Farmers Commercial Bank implemented al Qaeda-related transactions during the time period of the preparation for the 9/11 Attack.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 30, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

31. Along with senior members of the NIF, Bin Laden founded Wadi al Aqiq, termed “the mother company”. According to the United States State Department, Wadi al Aqiq and another Bin Laden company, Taba Investments Ltd., “secured a near monopoly over Sudan’s major agricultural exports of gum, corn, sunflower and sesame products.” The State Department also noted that the Bin Laden company al Hijra Construction worked with Sudanese military officials to transport and provide provisions to Bin Laden’s terrorist training camps in northern Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 31, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

32. Bin Laden’s al Hijra Construction built the Tahaddi a/k/a Challenge Road linking Khartoum to Port Sudan. President Bashir led a public ceremony to open the first phase.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 32, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

33. Joining in the Tahaddi road project was the Saudi Bin Laden Group (SBG), a Bin Laden family company in which Osama was a founding shareholder, and created in 1989 just as al Qaeda began moving to Sudan. SBG provided support and contributions to projects in Sudan via its Public Buildings and Airports Division.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 33, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

34. SBG constructed the Port Sudan Airport. SBG boasted of this:

Over the years the Division has undertaken various challenging projects, large and medium scale, including complete airports and roads. . . . The projects executed include. . Port Sudan Airport. SBG's skills- . . . has been recognized and utilized in the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Yemen and Sudan.

The agreement for the construction of an airport in Port Sudan was between the Republic of Sudan and the Saudi Bin Laden Group. The relationship among Osama Bin Laden, the Republic of Sudan, and the SBG were highlighted during the inauguration ceremony of the Port Sudan airport:

Meanwhile, Osama Bin Laden, was the first guest invited to attend the inauguration of the new Port Sudan Airport. He sat in the front row and was the guest of honor in this ceremony. It was a group of Bin Laden's companies that carried out the project of the new and modern airport that cost huge amounts of money.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 34, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

35. Another company jointly controlled by Bin Laden, Sudan and Saudi businessman Yasin Kadi, was the Khartoum-based Rowad Development and Investment (Rowad). Rowad was co-located with al Shamal Bank. Rowad's shareholders included al Shamal Bank, as represented by

the Sudan Minister of Finance, two companies owned by Yasin Kadi, an Executive Order 13324 Specially Designated Global Terrorist, and Wadi al Aqiq, Bin Laden's holding company. Rowad's corporate documents contain the signature of Bin Laden as the representative of Wadi al Aqiq. Rowad's corporate officers included the chairman of al Shamal, an officer of Yasin Kadi's Muwafaq Foundation, and a former employee of the Saudi Embassy in Washington DC.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 35, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

36. Rowad was involved in the agricultural sector including the processing and sale of sesame seeds. As noted above, Sudan gave al Qaeda a monopoly on the export of sesame products and other agricultural commodities.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 36, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

37. As detailed below, after Bin Laden left Sudan in 1996, several of the principals involved in Rowad continued the trade in sesame from Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 37, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan, except that Sudan admits that Bin Laden left Sudan in 1996.

38. Al Qaeda and Sudan also cooperated under the cover of so-called charitable activity. Al Dawa al Islamiya (Islamic Call) was instrumental in helping establish al Qaeda in Sudan. Senior

officers of Islamic Call were members of the National Islamic Front. They opened bank accounts for al Qaeda and helped with the founding of the al Qaeda's mother company Wadi al Aqiq.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 38, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

39. The Islamic African Relief Agency (IARA), a charity based in Khartoum with fund-raising subsidiaries in many countries including the United States, supported al Qaeda and Bin Laden. NIF members founded and directed IARA. Senior Sudanese intelligence officers together with Bin Laden senior aides, ran the IARA branch in Pakistan and Afghanistan in support of Bin Laden's activities. IARA officials regularly met with President Bashir to plan strategy regarding fighting the Sudanese civil war, including plans to attack Western humanitarian organizations attempting to help the victims of that war. IARA facilitated the NIF's financing of al Qaeda's attack on U.S. armed forces in Somalia.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 39, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

40. As noted below IARA provided significant financial assistance to al Qaeda during the planning and implementation of the 9/11 Plot.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 40, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

41. In October 2004, IARA was listed as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist by the

U.S. Department of the Treasury for providing “direct financial support” for Bin Laden.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 41, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

42. The Third World Relief Agency (TWRA) was founded and operated by Sudanese intelligence officials and assisted al Qaeda in moving its personnel and weaponry internationally. TWRA’s weapons trafficking to al Qaeda in Bosnia was coordinated with Hassan al Turabi.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 42, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

43. As noted above, Lajnat al Bir al Islami (LBI) was a Saudi-based charity affiliated with the World Assembly of Muslim Youth. LBI operated closely with al Qaeda during its formative years in Pakistan and Afghanistan. As part of the agreement establishing the symbiotic relationship between al Qaeda and Sudan, LBI was renamed the Benevolence International Foundation (BIF) and began operating inside Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 43, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

44. BIF presented a public face of humanitarian action in support of victims of war but internally declared that its main role was to support jihad. BIF assisted al Qaeda and Sudan with military, logistical support and medical care for the mujahidin and also cared for their families.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 44, because Sudan lacks knowledge

or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

45. From its Sudan base, BIF facilitated the movement of al Qaeda operatives around the world. One such operative was Mahmdou Mahmoud Salim. Salim was a Sudanese citizen though born in Iraq and was one of the original founders of al Qaeda. Salim was key to brokering the agreement between Bin Laden and Sudan that led to their symbiotic relationship. As noted below, from his Sudanese base Salim helped al Qaeda establish an international support structure.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 45, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

46. Under cover of humanitarian aid programs, BIF supported the Sudan government in prosecuting a war of aggression against the non-Arab and Christian population in the southern regions of the country. According to its own document, BIF “formed a close union with the Popular Defense Force”.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 46, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

47. Sudan’s militia was known as the Popular Defense Force (PDF). Al Qaeda, fresh from the war against the Soviets in Afghanistan, trained the PDF in guerilla tactics and purchased weapons for them. In a State Department Cable, the PDF was later praised for “fixing the spirit of jihad among the mujahidin.”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 47, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

48. The Muwafaq Foundation was a Saudi-founded organization supporting al Qaeda in Pakistan, Bosnia and Sudan and was run by Yasin Kadi. Its Khartoum office was staffed with Sudanese government employees. In 1994, the State Department called it a ‘de facto agent of the Government of Sudan.’

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 48, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

49. Bin Laden praised Muwafaq for its support of the PDF in the al Qaeda supported military efforts of Sudan. Bin Laden provided funds to Muwafaq to assist the PDF. In one instance, Muwafaq provided 100 tanker trucks to the PDF to keep them supplied with water and fuel.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 49, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

50. Al Qaeda delegated a representative to Muwafaq to maintain adequate funding. The Khartoum office was run by a Sudanese national whose previous position had been at the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 50, because Sudan lacks knowledge

or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

The Growth of al Qaeda

51. In summing up al Qaeda's time in Sudan, the CIA wrote,

“While based in Sudan from 1992-96, al-Qa'ida was transformed from an only partially realized idea to an international organization ready to operate on its own; A major factor in this development was the education al-Qa'ida members received working with officials of Sudan's National Islamic Front (NIF) to strengthen Sudan—some reporting says to build an international jihad infrastructure”.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 51, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

52. Hassan al Turabi created the Popular Arab and Islamic Congress in Sudan and held conferences throughout the 1990s attended by the PLO, Hamas, Hezbollah, government representatives of Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Iran and militant groups from Pakistan, Algeria and Tunisia, as well as al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 52, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

53. During one of these conferences hosted by Turabi in Khartoum, Sudan in 1993, Osama bin Laden and a deputy met with Hezbollah and Iranian government terror chief Imad Mughniyah and Iranian Military Brigadier General Mohamed Bagr Zolqadr and struck a deal to work and train together in the safe havens of Sudan and Iran. They established a tripartite agreement

between al Qaeda, Sudan, and elements of the government of Iran and Hezbollah to work together against the United States, Israel and other western countries. According to the CIA, this agreement was intended for al Qaeda members “to gain the necessary expertise in terrorist operations.”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 53, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

54. In finding Iran liable for the September 11th Attacks, based in part on the meetings and agreements between al Qaeda and Iran that were originally brokered by Sudan, this Court found that the agreements were significant in moving al Qaeda forward and growing it into an international terrorist organization that enjoyed state support. Prior to the Court’s holding on Iran in 2011, however, other courts had already found Sudan liable for its support for al Qaeda and its role in supporting both the bombing of two U.S. Embassies in East Africa in 1998 and the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole in Yemen in 2000. Both Sudan and Iran were, and still are, listed as state sponsors of terrorism and each were al Qaeda sponsors.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 54, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan. Sudan specifically denies Plaintiffs’ characterization of the court orders referenced in Paragraph 54 and Plaintiffs’ assertion Sudan is “still” designated as a state sponsor of terrorism.

55. Between 1990 and 1993, members of al Qaeda in Sudan undertook the task of writing the Encyclopedia of the Afghan Jihad. The members also wrote a book on terrorism, called Military Studies in the Jihad against the Tyrants. Both manuals were used in al Qaeda training courses.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 55, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

56. Bin Laden organized al Qaeda into camps throughout Sudan, the main one being a 20-acre site near Soba, 10 kilometers south of Khartoum. Camps provided training for al Qaeda's operatives as well as training for the Sudan's Popular Defense Forces, the para-military force terrorizing the population in the south of Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 56, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

57. Sudan provided 200 passports to al Qaeda so that its members could travel with new identities. Al Qaeda used these passports for two purposes: to establish an international procurement network and to support waging of jihad. At least some of these were Diplomatic Passports which allowed al Qaeda to avoid any scrutiny entering and exiting Sudan and reduced scrutiny when entering other countries.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 57, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

58. Sudan was placed on the State Sponsors of Terrorism List in 1993. In order to avoid suspicion during international travel, Sudan provided a special customs service for al Qaeda operatives to avoid having Sudanese stamps placed in their passports.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 58, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan, but Sudan admits that it was placed on the State Sponsors of Terrorism List in 1993.

59. Sudan benefited from al Qaeda's international procurement network when al Qaeda purchased communications equipment, radios, and rifles for Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 59, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

60. One key al Qaeda member was Mahmdou Mahmoud Salim, who, as noted above, was a founder of al Qaeda and a key interlocutor between al Qaeda and Sudan of which he was a citizen. Salim worked with a senior NIF official to obtain communications equipment for the Sudanese intelligence service.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 60, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

61. Salim was able to travel freely for al Qaeda with his Sudanese passport to attend meetings and deal with al Qaeda affairs in Turkey, Bosnia, and China.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 61, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

62. On September 14, 1998, the U.S. requested the extradition of Salim from Germany for conspiracy to commit the terror bombings of two U.S. Embassies in East Africa the previous month, and stated that during the period 1992-1996, while Bin Laden lived in Sudan, al Qaeda and the Sudanese government worked closely together on training and arming terrorists. While awaiting trial in the S.D.N.Y., Salim stabbed a prison guard at the M.C.C. and was later convicted of attempted murder and sentenced to life in prison.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 62, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

63. Bin Laden and al Qaeda were allowed to operate freely in Sudan, particularly for training and planning terror attacks against U.S. targets and Americans.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 63, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

64. Lieutenant General Omar Hassan Ahmed al Bashir was the President of Sudan, and as head of Sudan, Bashir was responsible for formulating and executing Sudan's policy of supporting terrorism, Bin Laden and al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 64, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

65. President Bashir signed a letter authorizing al Qaeda to freely pass through Sudanese

customs allowing unhindered entry and exit of people and goods through Port Sudan. Bashir's letter also allowed al Qaeda free travel through police checkpoints for the transport of people and goods within Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 65, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

66. With the assistance of Sudan's intelligence service, al Qaeda smuggled weaponry into Egypt via the use of camels and from Port Sudan shipped weapons and explosives to an affiliated group in Yemen.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 66, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

67. Al Qaeda and the Sudanese Army planned the joint manufacture of chemical weapons and practiced mounting chemical agents on artillery shells. Al Qaeda at this time also began to conduct experiments on dogs that were injected or gassed with cyanide.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 67, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

68. During its stay in Sudan, al Qaeda had grown from a group of mujahidin with military experience into a full-blown terrorist organization with fund raising, propaganda, training and operations' departments.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 68, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

69. In May 1996, after the United States pressured Sudan, Bin Laden departed Khartoum and returned to Afghanistan. The U.S. State Department called it an “alleged expulsion” and “an amicable separation.” Bin Laden continued to maintain his substantial business interests and facilities in Sudan even after his departure to Afghanistan in 1996. As noted below, Sudan continued active and energetic support to Bin Laden and al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 69, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan, but Sudan admits that Bin Laden “departed Khartoum” in 1996.

Sudan’s Support to al Qaeda attacks on the United States

70. In 1991, 1992, and 1993 al Qaeda issued fatwas calling for attacks on the United States.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 70, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

71. The 1992 fatwa included a call for attacks on U.S. military forces in Yemen.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 71, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

72. Al Qaeda carried out the attacks on U.S. personnel in Yemen in December 1992.

Sudan knew that al Qaeda carried out this attack and supported it.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 72, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

73. The 1993 fatwa advocated violence against Americans based in Mogadishu, Somalia. Sudan's intelligence service was aware of these fatwas and supported them.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 73, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

74. In October, 1993 al Qaeda assisted the Somali warlords who shot down two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters in Mogadishu, killing 18 U.S. service members and led to the subsequent withdrawal of U.S. forces from the Somali humanitarian mission in early 1994.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 74, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

75. An April 1997 CIA report stated that al Qaeda went to Somalia "with the NIF's knowledge and encouragement, in order to kill U.S. troops, incite violence against U.S. personnel and undermine the success of the U.S. mission."

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 75, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

76. Bin Laden told CNN that one of his proudest achievements during the period of time al Qaeda was based in Sudan was al Qaeda's role in the October 1993 killing of more than a dozen American soldiers stationed in Somalia who had been taking part in Operation Restore Hope, a UN-sponsored emergency relief mission.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 76, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

77. Omar Abdel Rahman, a/k/a the Blind Sheikh, was a radical Egyptian cleric who joined the jihad against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. During the Afghan war, Abdel Rahman became very close to Bin Laden. Abdel Rahman subsequently moved to the United States. Bin Laden financially supported Abdel Rahman in New York via Sudan and NIF logistical channels. Abdel Rahman encouraged Islamic terrorist Ramzi Yousef and others to bomb the World Trade Center on February 26, 1993 killing six people. Yousef had trained in al Qaeda camps and is the nephew of al Qaeda 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohamed. Abdel Rahman was arrested in June 1993, four months after the WTC bombing and charged in another plot to blow up New York City landmarks known as the Bridges and Tunnels Plot or the Landmark Plot. In October, 1995 Abdel Rahman was convicted in the Southern District of New York for his role in this plot.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 77, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

78. The Sudan Embassy to the United Nations in New York and its Ambassador intended to assist Omar Abdel Rahman in this plot by arranging the entrance of a bomb-laden car

into the underground parking garage of the U.N. According to the U.S. government terrorism expert who testified in the E.D.VA, Lorenzo Vidino:

A. [I]n the follow-up operation after the ['93] World Trade Center attack, a cell made mostly of Sudanese nationals operating in the New York area, started planning a follow-up attack where the targets were the U.N., the Holland Tunnel and probably the FBI headquarters in New York. This was supposed to be, as I said, a follow-up attack to the '93 attack which, in their view, was a botched attack....

A. Phone calls were intercepted by U.S. Intelligence between some of the operatives in which they talk about the fact that officials at the Sudanese embassy were going to provide them with diplomatic passports once the operation was carried out so that they could leave the country freely the night after the attack was to take place.

At the same time for the bombing of the U.N. headquarters, the truck loaded with explosives was supposed to come in, go into the garage of the U.N. using documents provided by the Sudanese delegation. Pretty much the Sudanese delegation would write the letter and use plates. Actually the plates that were supposed to be put on the truck were plates given by the Sudanese delegation.

So there were different indications that the Sudanese delegation there was closely supporting this attempt. Two individuals that were actually directly linked to the plot were, U.S. intelligence indicated that they were actually members of Sudanese intelligence, but they were of course not identified as such at the United Nations, but were actually members of the Sudanese military intelligence.

When the U.N., the Sudanese ambassador to the U.N., who was apparently not aware that this plot was taking place, called Turabi to complain about this, Turabi pretty much told him to literally to mind his own business. So it was clear there was involvement of the highest-ranking members of the Sudanese government that had dispatched intelligence officers at the Sudanese embassy to provide support to the cell to carry out this attack in the United States. So this attack was botched, was thwarted, but it was really the final straw that led to the designation of Sudan as a state sponsor of terrorism by the United States State Department.¹

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 78, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third

¹ Testimony of Lorenzo Vidino, *Rux v. Republic of Sudan*, Case No. 2:04-cv-0428, (E.D.Va.), March 13, 2017, at pp. 90-91.

parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan. Sudan admits that Mr. Vidino's testimony contains the excerpt quoted in Paragraph 78, but Sudan otherwise denies the allegations in Paragraph 78 as conclusory and/or misleading. Sudan also denies the legal conclusion that Mr. Vidino is a "terrorism expert."

79. As a result of these terrorist acts and plots, Sudan was designated in 1993 as a foreign state that sponsors terrorism within the meaning of the Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 U.S.C. App. §2405(j), and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, 22 U.S.C. §2371(b) and 28 U.S.C. §2333.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 79, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan, but Sudan admits that it was placed on the State Sponsors of Terrorism List in 1993.

80. In May 1996 Bin Laden left Sudan for Afghanistan. The U.S. State Department called it an "alleged expulsion" and said "Bin Ladin's National Islamic Front colleagues probably would have wanted an amicable separation, in part because Khartoum did not want to alienate the radical terrorist financier and his small army of trained mujahidin. Any arrangement may have included allowing bin Ladin to run his Khartoum-based businesses through Sudanese intermediaries."

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 80, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan, but Sudan admits that Bid Laden "left Sudan" in 1996.

81. In August 1996, Bin Laden and al Qaeda issued a public Declaration of Jihad calling for attacks on the United States.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 81, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

1998 Bombing of U.S. Embassies in East Africa

82. In early 1998, several of the principal operatives in this al Qaeda bombing plot travelled back and forth between Khartoum and Nairobi, the site of one of the U.S. Embassy attacks. On August 7, 1998, al Qaeda operatives carried out near simultaneous truck bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, killing 224 people, including 12 Americans, and injuring over 4,500.

ANSWER: Sudan admits the allegations in Paragraph 82, to the extent that Sudan is aware that in August 1998 the United States Embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania were attacked by Al Qaeda. Sudan denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 82, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

83. Sudan assisted al Qaeda in carrying out the planning and execution of the 1998 bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Beginning in 1993, al Qaeda dispatched its operatives from Sudan to Kenya to begin setting up the logistical network necessary to surveil, plan and carry out the attacks. In 1997, funding in U.S. dollars for the Embassies' bombing plot was transferred from Sudan to al Qaeda operatives with the assistance of Sudanese authorities. The operatives used Sudan as their home base and held Sudanese passports and documents issued by the Sudanese government that allowed them to freely cross international borders.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 83, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations

as to Sudan.

84. In the aftermath of the Embassy attacks, Sudan's President Bashir defended Osama bin Laden. "I met him. . . He's a very normal person who is very religious."

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 84, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

85. On August 20, 1998, "To preempt additional attacks, the United States launched military cruise missile strikes against terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan." One of those targets was a Sudanese government chemical factory north of Khartoum.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 85, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

86. Several Al Qaeda terrorists were eventually captured, prosecuted and convicted in the S.D.N.Y, including Osama bin Laden in absentia. Many of the bombing victims and their survivors brought civil suits against al Qaeda, Sudan and others. Sudan hired counsel in the action but later abandoned the litigation. The D.C. District granted a default judgment against Sudan and conducted an evidentiary hearing. The court found that Sudan provided material support to al Qaeda and was responsible for the bombings of the two U.S. Embassies in East Africa. The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the District Court in *Owens v. Republic of Sudan*, 864 F.3d 751, 794-95 (D.C. Cir. 2017), finding that Sudan was responsible for supporting the al Qaeda bombings:

The record shows that after al Qaeda started its businesses, Sudan fostered their growth through tax exceptions and customs privileges. This allowed al Qaeda nearly to monopolize the export of several agricultural commodities, plowing its

profits back into its broader organization. Again, after al Qaeda opened its training camps, Sudanese intelligence shielded their operations from the local police despite complaints from nearby residents. This preferential treatment certainly qualifies as material support, even if Sudan played no role in creating the underlying businesses and training camps.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 86, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan admits only that in 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision involving Sudan. Sudan otherwise denies Plaintiffs' characterization of the court's decision. To the extent that Paragraph 86 includes factual allegations directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

87. The D.C Court of Appeals further stated that:

The district court noted, bin Laden's \$50 million investment in the partially state-owned al Shamal Islamic Bank gave al Qaeda "access to the formal banking system," which proved useful for "laundering money" and "financing terrorist operations." 826 F.Supp. 2d 128, at 144. Al Qaeda operatives, including bin Laden himself, held accounts in their real names in al Shamal bank, demonstrating the impunity with which the group operated in Sudan. Id. at p.795.

ANSWER: Sudan denies Plaintiffs' characterization of the court's opinion and the allegations contained in Paragraph 87. Sudan admits only that in 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision involving Sudan and that the decision includes the excerpt quoted in Paragraph 87.

88. In summarizing Sudan's deep and long-lasting relationship with al Qaeda, the D.C. Court of Appeals found that:

The plaintiffs have offered sufficient admissible evidence that establishes that Sudan's material support of al Qaeda proximately caused the 1998 embassy bombings.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 88, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan denies Plaintiffs' characterization of the court's opinion and the allegations contained in Paragraph 88. Sudan admits only that in 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision involving Sudan and

that the decision includes the excerpt quoted in Paragraph 88.

89. The issue of punitive damages and its retroactive application was challenged by Sudan and its on-again, off-again U.S. counsel at White & Case, and certiorari was granted. In May 2020, the Supreme Court not only unanimously sustained the judgment against Sudan for the embassy bombings, but also determined that Congress could, and ultimately did, legislate that punitive damages against a sovereign state in a terror action were permitted. *Opati v. Republic of Sudan*, 590 U.S. p. 5 (May 2020). Justice Gorsuch wrote that:

“District Judge John Bates offered detailed factual findings explaining that Sudan had knowingly served as a safe haven near the two United States Embassies and allowed al Qaeda to plan and train for the attacks. The court also found that Sudan had provided hundreds of Sudanese passports to al Qaeda, allowed al Qaeda operatives to travel over the Sudan-Kenya border without restriction, and permitted the passage of weapons and money to supply al Qaeda’s cell in Kenya. See *Owens v. Republic of Sudan*, 826 F. Supp. 2d 128, 139-146 (DC 2011).”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 89, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan admits only that in 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision involving Sudan. Sudan otherwise denies Plaintiffs’ characterization of the court’s decision. To the extent that Paragraph 89 includes factual allegations directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

2000 Bombing of U.S.S. Cole

90. Two years later, the U.S.S. *Cole* was bombed by al Qaeda in the port of Sanaa, Yemen in October 2000. One of the main architects of the bombing trained in the al Qaeda camps in Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan admits the allegations in Paragraph 90, to the extent that Sudan is aware that in October 2000, the U.S.S. *Cole* was attacked by Al Qaeda in Yemen. Sudan denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 90, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the

allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

91. On July 25, 2007, in finding Sudan liable for the Cole bombing, the Federal Court in the Eastern District of Virginia, after weighing trial evidence stated, “the Court FINDS as a fact, that the explosives used in the Cole attack were sent by Al Qaeda operatives in Sudan.”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 91, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan admits only that on July 25, 2007, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia entered a default judgment against Sudan. Sudan otherwise denies Plaintiffs’ characterization of the court’s opinion and order.

92. The Court further stated that,

“[t]his finding is corroborated by the testimony of one of Bin Laden's lieutenants in Sudan, Jamal Al-Fadl, who testified in criminal proceedings against Bin Laden arising out of the 1998 embassy bombings. (Ex. 32, *United States v. Bin Laden*, Case No. 198CR1023, Trial Tr. Feb. 6, 2001). Mr. Al-Fadl stated in sworn testimony in a trial before the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York that he worked under Bin Laden in Sudan; that he stored four crates of weapons and explosives at a farm in Sudan owned by Bin Laden; and that he shipped the four crates in an Al Qaeda-owned boat from a facility owned by the Sudanese military in Port Sudan to Yemen, where they were to be used to "fight the Communists."

ANSWER: Sudan denies Plaintiffs’ characterization of the court’s opinion and order and the allegations contained in Paragraph 92. Sudan admits only that on July 25, 2007, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia entered a default judgment against Sudan and that the court’s July 25, 2007 opinion and order includes the excerpt quoted in Paragraph 92.

93. The Virginia District Court further found that:

“Based on the expert testimony and documentary evidence, the Court FINDS as a fact that Sudan, beginning in the early 1990s and continuing at least until 2000, actively provided Al Qaeda with the support, guidance, Sudanese diplomatic passports and resources that allowed it to transform into a sophisticated, worldwide terrorist network, and that such support was critical to Al Qaeda developing the expertise, networks, military training, munitions, and financial resources necessary to plan and carry out the attack that killed the seventeen American sailors on the U.S.S. Cole. Each of the expert witnesses testified that the strike against the Cole would likely not have occurred without Sudan's support and assistance to Al Qaeda

in the form of safe haven, military training, diplomatic passports, business partnerships, and lax banking and accounting systems that facilitated money laundering.” *Rux* at 553.

ANSWER: Sudan denies Plaintiffs’ characterization of the court’s opinion and order and the allegations contained in Paragraph 93. Sudan admits only that on July 25, 2007, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia entered a default judgment against Sudan and that the court’s July 25, 2007 opinion and order includes the excerpt quoted in Paragraph 93.

94. In addition, the *Rux* Court stated that,

“[t]he Court FINDS as a fact by substantial evidence that Sudan's material support to Al Qaeda led to the murders of the seventeen American servicemen and women on October 12, 2000, in the territorial waters of Yemen.” *Id.* at 554.

ANSWER: Sudan denies Plaintiffs’ characterization of the court’s opinion and order and the allegations contained in Paragraph 94. Sudan admits only that on July 25, 2007, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia entered a default judgment against Sudan and that the court’s July 25, 2007 opinion and order includes the excerpt quoted in Paragraph 94.

95. Relying on exceptions to foreign sovereign immunity pre-JASTA, the District Court held that:

“Sudanese Government officials, employees, or agents acting within the scope of their office provided various forms of “material support” as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2339A(b), including lodging, safe houses, financial services, false documentation, and transportation, to Al-Qaeda, whose operatives planned and carried out the Cole bombing. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2339A(b)(1) (defining “material support or resources”))^{10]} The deliberate murder of the seventeen American sailors qualifies as an “extrajudicial killing.”^[11] Jurisdictional causation under 28 U.S.C. § 1605(a)(7) is satisfied, as the evidence establishes a “reasonable connection between [Sudan's] provision of material support to [Al Qaeda] and the damage arising out of [the] terrorist attack” against the Cole. *Rux*, 461 F.3d at 473. Since 1993, the U.S. Department of State has designated Sudan as a state sponsor of terrorism in accordance with § 6(j) of the Export Administration Act, 50 U.S.C. § 2405(j). 58 Fed.Reg. 52523-01 (Oct. 8, 1993). *Id.* at 554-55.

ANSWER: Sudan denies Plaintiffs’ characterization of the court’s opinion and order and the allegations contained in Paragraph 95. Sudan admits only that on July 25, 2007, the U.S. District

Court for the Eastern District of Virginia entered a default judgment against Sudan and that the court's July 25, 2007 opinion and order includes the excerpt quoted in Paragraph 95.

96. The USS Cole bombing took place on October 12, 2000, after the 9/11 hijackers had already begun arriving in the United States in preparation for the attack that would take place a mere 11 months later.

ANSWER: Sudan admits the allegations in Paragraph 96, to the extent that Sudan is aware that the U.S.S. *Cole* bombing took place on October 12, 2000. Sudan denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 12, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties.

Sudan's Support of the 9/11 Attack

97. According to the Report of the 9/11 Commission, the first planning for the 9/11 Attacks took place at the al Qaeda headquarters in Khartoum, Sudan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 97, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

98. From 1996 to 1998, numerous telephone calls were made to the Khartoum offices of the al Qaeda companies from al Qaeda telephones in London, Kenya and Afghanistan.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 98, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

99. In its December 4, 1998 daily briefing of the President, the CIA wrote "A Bin Ladin associate in Sudan late last month told a colleague in Kandahar that he had shipped a group of

containers to Afghanistan. Bin Ladin associates also talked about the movement of containers to Afghanistan before the East Africa bombings.”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 99, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

100. According to the Canadian Intelligence Service, in a 1998 meeting with al Qaeda’s number two official, Ayman al Zawahiri, Sudanese government officials agreed to use their embassies in western capitals to act as fund-raisers for al Qaeda and to provide passports to al Qaeda to further al Qaeda’s terrorist agenda and the ability of its operatives to move about the globe.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 100, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

101. As noted above, the Islamic African Relief Agency (IARA), an NIF charity based in Khartoum with fund raising subsidiaries in many countries including the United States, has long supported al Qaeda and Bin Laden.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 101, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

102. In 1999, IARA’s overseas offices provided hundreds of thousands of dollars to Bin Laden. For instance, IARA’s office in Dublin, Ireland was raided in 2001 and documents recovered related to Mustafa al Hawsawi and the al Qaeda network. Al Hawsawi was a major source of funds

for the 9/11 hijackers. IARA Dublin provided support to the European based cell of al Qaeda during the same time that al Qaeda recruited the 9/11 hijackers in Hamburg, Germany and other parts of Europe. The Director of IARA Dublin visited Afghanistan in the year 2000 to facilitate the flow of money and support to al Qaeda terrorists in Afghanistan and Europe.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 102, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

103. In 2000, representatives of IARA Afghanistan and al Qaeda's main support group Mahktab al Khidmat, traveled to Sudan and neighboring countries on a fundraising trip, in which they raised \$5 million for al Qaeda. Outside of Afghanistan, government officials in Sudan and Saudi Arabia provided critical financial and logistical support to al Qaeda as the organization was conducting the final phases of training for the 9/11 Attack. The Director of IARA Afghanistan was a top aide to Bin Laden. During the year 2000, from its base in Afghanistan, al Qaeda directed the financial support to the 9/11 Plot.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 103, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

104. IARA had representatives in several U.S. cities. One representative, Ziyad Khalil, procured a satellite phone for the use of Osama Bin Laden in Afghanistan. Another IARA representative, Ahmed Al-Hebr, was based in the King Fahad Mosque in Culver City, California. Al-Hebr had helped organize the Grand Opening of the mosque in 1998. Out of the fifty mosques operating in Southern California in January 2000, hijackers Nawaf al Hazmi and Khalid al Mihdhar

went to this mosque upon their arrival in the U.S, and received assistance from the mosque management. On October 13, 2004, the U.S. government listed IARA as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (“SDGT”) entity, along with five senior officials for providing direct support to bin Laden and al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 104, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

105. As stated above, after Bin Laden left Sudan in May 1996, Saudi businessman and charitable supporter of al Qaeda, Adel Batterjee, became the Chairman of al Shamal Islamic Bank, despite his having no prior banking or financial experience. His charity, the Benevolence International Foundation (BIF), which supported both al Qaeda and Sudan, became the largest shareholder in the bank.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 105, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

106. A document recovered from the 2011 raid on Bin Laden’s Abbottabad compound revealed that in 1999, Bin Laden declared that he had between 26 and 28 million dollars still left in Sudan and was attempting to find a way to access the funds from Afghanistan. One of the money laundering mechanisms used to access these funds is described below.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 106, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations

as to Sudan.

107. As detailed above, Rowad Development was an agricultural joint venture owned by Bin Laden, al Qaeda, Saudi businessman Yasin Kadi, and al Shamal Islamic Bank. Sudan's Minister of Finance was on the Board of Directors. One of its primary commodities was sesame for which Sudan gave al Qaeda a monopoly on exports. In 1999-2000, several of the principals involved in Rowad continued the trade in sesame from Sudan, albeit under a different corporate name, in order to provide funding and cover for al Qaeda operatives.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 107, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

108. During the summer of 1999, using about \$1 million originating from the Saudi Royal Family, a newly established company named Solano was formed by Rowad shareholders to ostensibly purchase sesame seeds in Sudan in order to market them internationally.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 108, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

109. In 1999-2000, Solano bought sesame seeds from a related Sudanese company, Adyat. To pay for the sesame seeds, Solano transferred approximately \$1 million from its Swiss bank account to Adyat's account in al Shamal Bank via Dubai Islamic Bank. The funds were then transferred on to the Farmers Commercial Bank, another Sudanese bank founded by Bin Laden and the NIF. The Farmers Commercial Bank was a US Treasury Designated National at the time of the transfers.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 109, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

110. An intermediary company in these transactions was Dan Fodio, a Sudanese company owned by the National Islamic Front which helped al Qaeda trade in sesame seeds at the time al Qaeda had a ‘near monopoly’ on export of sesame products. In May 2000, 1,000 tons of sesame seeds were exported from Port Sudan but Solano records do not show any revenue from the sale of these sesame seeds.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 110, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

111. Simultaneously, Solano itself held an account at al Shamal. The account began with a balance of \$9 million, though there is no indication of the origin of these funds. Between October 1999 and February 2000, in a series of transactions, al Shamal drained the Solano account to zero. An additional thirty-four checks totaling \$27 million were presented for payment but according to al Shamal records, there were insufficient funds to cover the checks. The figure is nearly identical to the \$26-28 million Bin Laden wanted to extract from Sudan as noted above.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 111, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

112. As the State Department said in a cable of June 20, 2000, “Several Bin Ladin

businesses . . . are run by al-Qaida lieutenants and still operate in Sudan. . . Sudan maintains a financial stake in some of these companies and has tried to obscure Bin Ladin's commercial ties by changing the name of at least one of his companies." In the summer of 2000, on several occasions the United States Department of State noted that Sudan continued to knowingly allow al Qaeda staff and corporate entities to function within its borders.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 112, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

113. Abdelrahim Mohamed Hamdi was Sudan's Minister of Finance in 1991 and was instrumental in raising funds, including from Bin Laden, to capitalize al Shamal Islamic Bank. Hamdi was also the Chair of the Khartoum Stock Exchange and Chair of the National Committee for the Division of National Wealth in the late 1990s. In early 1996, Abdelwahab Osman was appointed Sudan's Minister of Finance. Osman was also Chairman of the al Shamal Islamic Bank and a Board Director of Rowad Development. Hamdi and Osman had regulatory authority over all banks in Sudan as well as controls on foreign exchange.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 113, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

114. These two fund-raising schemes on behalf of al Qaeda by IARA and Solano took place simultaneously with al Qaeda's major expenditures on the 9/11 Plot.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 114, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third

parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

115. The funds generated by Sudan were critical to al Qaeda's 9/11 Plot by supporting al Qaeda's training camps in Afghanistan which the 9/11 hijackers attended, the infrastructure of al Qaeda in Afghanistan, Pakistan and other countries necessary for the 9/11 Plot to be carried out, the travel, living, and the training expenses of the hijackers and their supporters as they moved overseas in preparation for the attack.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 115, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

116. In describing Sudan's relations with al Qaeda after the departure of Bin Laden, an official of the US State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research reported, after 1996 "there were still persistent links with Al Qaida. The facilitators were still in Khartoum and . . . Sudanese government officials knew it. Al Qa'ida front companies were still in play. . . . Sudan was trying to give the impression that they were changing without surrendering Islamic radicals. They were trying to have it both ways."

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 116, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

117. In another cable, the United States Department of State noted they had a "list of 26 associates of Bin Laden who continue to reside in Sudan."

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 117, because Sudan lacks knowledge

or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

118. The United States Department of State issues annual reports titled Patterns of Global Terrorism. The 1998 annual report stated “Sudan continued to serve as a meeting place, safe haven, and training hub for a number of international terrorist groups, particularly Usama Bin Ladin's al-Qaida organization.” The 1999 annual report stated “Sudan continued to serve as a meeting place, safe haven, and training hub for members of Bin Ladin’s al-Qaida, Lebanese Hezbollah, al-Jihad, al-Gama ‘at, PIJ, HAMAS, and the Abu Nidal organization (ANO).” The 2000 annual report noted that Sudan “continued to be used as a safe haven by members of various groups, including associates of Usama Bin Ladin's al-Qaida organization, Egyptian al- Gama'a al- Islamiya, Egyptian Islamic Jihad, the Palestine Islamic Jihad, and HAMAS. Most groups used Sudan primarily as a secure base for assisting compatriots elsewhere.” The 2001 report, issued a few months after the September 11th attack, stated, “[a] number of intentional terrorist groups including al-Qaida, the Egyptian Islamic Jihad, Egyptian al-Gama’a al-Islamiya, the Palestine Islamic Jihad, and Hamas continued to use Sudan as a safe haven, primarily for conducting logistics and other support activities.”

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 118, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to third parties. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Sudan, Sudan denies the factual allegations as to Sudan.

119. The United States Secretary of State continues to designate the Republic of Sudan as a state sponsor of international terrorism.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 119, because Sudan’s designation was rescinded on December 14, 2020.

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION TO RECOVER PERSONAL
INJURY AND WRONGFUL DEATH DAMAGES PURSUANT
TO SECTION 1605A OF THE FOREIGN SOVEREIGN
IMMUNITIES ACT, 28 U.S.C. § 1605A**

120. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the averments contained in the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein at length.

ANSWER: Sudan hereby incorporates by reference its responses to Paragraphs 1-119 of the *Ashton* Amended Complaint, set forth above.

121. At all relevant times, defendant Sudan was and remains to be a foreign state designated as a state sponsor of terrorism as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1605A(a)(2)(A)(i) to maintain an action under § 1605A of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (“FSIA”), 28 U.S.C. § 1605A(a)(2)(A)(i).

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 121, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan also denies that it “remains to be a foreign state designated as a state sponsor of terrorism,” because such designation was rescinded on December 14, 2020.

122. Plaintiffs herein initially brought suit against defendant Sudan pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1605(a)(7) and Pub.L. 104-208, Div. A, Title I, § 101(c), 110 Stat. 3009-172 (reprinted at 28 U.S.C. § 1605 note (West Supp.)).

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 122, because Plaintiffs’ characterization of their claims states a legal conclusion to which no response is required.

123. Congress, in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (P.L. 110-181, § 1083), which was enacted January 29, 2008 (the “NDAA”), amended the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (“FSIA”) by adding a new § 1605A to Chapter 97 of Title 28 of the U. S. Code. The new Section 1605A unequivocally creates a federal private right of action against foreign state

sponsors of terrorism. Subsection (c) of § 1605A, provides:

(c) Private right of action.--A foreign state that is or was a state sponsor of terrorism as described in subsection (a)(2)(A)(i), and any official, employee, or agent of that foreign state while acting within the scope of his or her office, employment, or agency, shall be liable to--

- (1) a national of the United States,
- (2) a member of the armed forces,
- (3) an employee of the Government of the United States, or of an individual performing a contract awarded by the United States Government, acting within the scope of the employee's employment, or
- (4) the legal representative of a person described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3), for personal injury or death caused by acts described in subsection (a) (1) of that foreign state, or of an official, employee, or agent of that foreign state, for which the courts of the United States may maintain jurisdiction under this section for money damages. In any such action, damages may include economic damages, solatium, pain and suffering, and punitive damages. In any such action, a foreign state shall be vicariously liable for the acts of its officials, employees, or agents.

Section 1605A applies to the pending actions of each of the Plaintiffs herein pursuant to Pub.L. 110-181, Div. A, Title X, § 1083(c), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 342, which provides that:

(1) In general.--The amendments made by this section [enacting this section and amending 28 U.S.C.A. §§1605, 1607, 1610, and 42 U.S.C.A. § 10603c] shall apply to any claim arising under section 1605A of title 28, United States Code [this section].

(3) Related actions.--If an action arising out of an act or incident has been timely commenced under section 1605(a)(7) of title 28, United States Code, or section 589 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1997 (as contained in section 101(c) of division A of Public Law 104-208), any other action arising out of the same act or incident may be brought under section 1605A of title 28, United States Code [this section], if the action is commenced not later than the latter of 60 days after--

- (A) the date of the entry of judgment in the original action; or
- (B) the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 28, 2008].

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 123, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

124. As a result of the conduct of defendant Sudan and its agencies, instrumentalities, officials, employees and agents that violated the federal laws cited above, all Plaintiffs suffered damages as fully set forth in the paragraphs herein which are incorporated here by reference.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 124, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

125. The surviving personal injury and death victims were seriously and severely injured, shocked, bruised and wounded and suffered great physical, mental and emotional pain and injury and they were rendered sick, sore, lame and disabled, and were otherwise injured or killed, or were confined to a hospital, bed, and/or home for a period of time. Those surviving personal injury victims and the estates of those killed are entitled to recover damages from defendant Sudan for their personal injuries and deaths sustained in and as a result of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 125, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to Plaintiffs' alleged injuries. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 125, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

126. Decedents killed in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack are survived by family members entitled to recover damages from defendant Sudan for wrongful death. These family members are among the Plaintiffs who are entitled to damages deemed as a fair and just compensation for the injuries resulting from the deaths of the Decedents.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 126, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to Plaintiffs' alleged injuries and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 126, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

127. The injuries and damages suffered by the Plaintiffs by virtue of personal injury and wrongful death, and the consequences resulting there from, were proximately caused by the intentional, reckless and negligent acts, omissions, and other tortious conduct of defendant Sudan as described herein.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 127, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

128. As a direct and proximate result of intentional, reckless and negligent acts, omissions, and other tortious conduct of defendant Sudan, the surviving personal injury plaintiffs suffered serious and permanent personal injuries, severe mental and emotional anguish and suffering, impairment of their respective earning capacities, which impairment will continue indefinitely into the future, as well as financial losses and expenses, were obligated to receive and undergo medical attention and care and to incur various expenses for the treatment of their injuries.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 128, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to Plaintiffs' alleged injuries. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 128, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

129. As a direct and proximate result of the deaths of the Decedents, their heirs have been deprived of future aid, assistance, services, comfort, and financial support and suffered damages including pain and suffering, trauma, emotional distress, loss of life and life's pleasures, loss of earnings and earning capacity, loss of accretion to their estates and other items of damages as fully set forth in the paragraphs above which are incorporated herein by reference.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 129, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to Plaintiffs' alleged injuries. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 129, because they are legal

conclusions to which no response is required.

130. Plaintiffs also bring this action for damages suffered by the Decedents and caused by the defendant's conduct. As a result of the intentional, reckless and negligent acts of defendant Sudan as described above, the Decedents endured pain, suffering, and trauma; were placed in apprehension of harmful and offensive bodily contact (assault), suffered offensive and harmful bodily contact (battery), suffered extreme fear, anxiety, emotional and psychological distress (intentional/negligent infliction of emotional distress), and were mentally and physically harmed, trapped, and falsely imprisoned (false imprisonment) prior to their ultimate deaths.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 130, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to Plaintiffs' alleged injuries. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 130, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

131. The actions of defendant Sudan, its agencies, instrumentalities, officials, employees and agents, acting in concert to carry out their unlawful objectives, were malicious, outrageous and in willful, wanton, and reckless disregard of the rights of all the Plaintiffs. The defendant intended to carry out actions that would end the lives of the Decedents.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 131, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

132. As a result of their intentional, malicious, outrageous, willful and wanton conduct, all defendants are jointly and severally liable to all Plaintiffs for punitive damages.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 132, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment in their favor against defendant Sudan jointly, severally, and/or individually, in an amount authorized by governing law to be determined

at trial, for compensatory damages, together with punitive damages, plus pre- and post-judgment interest, costs, attorney fees, and such other monetary and equitable relief as this Honorable Court deems appropriate under the circumstances and to prevent Sudan from ever again committing such heinous acts.

ANSWER: Sudan denies each and every allegation and legal conclusion in Plaintiffs' demand for judgment and further denies that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested or any remedy whatsoever against Sudan.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION TO RECOVER
PERSONAL INJURY AND WRONGFUL DEATH DAMAGES
PURSUANT TO SECTION 1605B OF THE FOREIGN
SOVEREIGN IMMUNITIES ACT, 28 U.S.C. § 1605B (JASTA)
AND THE ANTI-TERRORISM ACTS**

133. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all of the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

ANSWER: Sudan hereby incorporates by reference its responses to Paragraphs 1-132 of the *Ashton* Amended Complaint, set forth above.

134. This action is also brought pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1605B of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act known as JASTA and 18 U.S.C. § 2333(a) for the injuries and deaths suffered by U.S. nationals in the September 11th Attacks.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 134, because Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims states a legal conclusion to which no response is required.

135. Those attacks constituted acts of international terrorism pursuant to JASTA and 18 U.S.C. §2331 that violated federal and state laws against murder, kidnapping, assault and aircraft hijacking, including but not limited to 18 U.S.C. §2332b (prohibiting terrorist acts of kidnapping, assault and murder) and 49 U.S.C. §46502 (prohibiting aircraft hijacking), and at the time those acts were committed, planned and authorized, al Qaeda was designated as a Foreign Terrorist

Organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §1189.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 135, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

136. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §2333(a), (d), Sudan aided and abetted al Qaeda through numerous acts detailed herein by knowingly providing it with substantial assistance to prepare and carry out an act or acts of international terrorism.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 136, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 136 because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

137. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §2333(a), (d), Sudan conspired with al Qaeda and others to provide it with substantial material support and resources, with the shared understanding, knowledge and intent that said support and resources would be used by al Qaeda to prepare and carry out an act or acts of international terrorism.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 137, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 137 because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

138. The others in the conspiracy currently known to plaintiffs are named herein, and include Sudan's officials, employees and agents, Sudan's banks, businesses and charity organizations, Osama Bin Laden and al Qaeda operatives; the names of additional persons involved in the conspiracy await discovery and further investigation.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 138, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in

Paragraph 138 because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

139. Pursuant to §2333(a), Sudan committed an act or acts of international terrorism, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2331(1)(A), in violation of federal and state criminal laws, or that would have been a criminal violation if committed within the United States or any state, including but not limited to a violation of the following:

- 18 U.S.C. §2(a) - Aiding, abetting, counseling, commanding, inducing or procuring a federal crime;
- 18 U.S.C. §371 - Conspiring to commit a federal crime;
- 18 U.S.C. §2332 - Conspiring to attempt to kill or kill a U.S. national;
- 18 U.S.C. §2332a - Conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction;
- 18 U.S.C. §2332b - Conspiring to commit an act of terrorism;
- 18 U.S.C. §2339A - Providing material support to terrorists;
- 18 U.S.C. §2339B - Providing material support or resources to designated foreign terrorist organizations;
- 18 U.S.C. §2339C - Prohibitions against the financing of terrorism;
- 49 U.S.C. §46502 - Conspiring to commit aircraft piracy;
- N.J.S.A. §2C:2-6 - Accomplice liability;
- N.Y. Penal Law §20.00 - Criminal liability for conduct of another;
- N.Y. Penal Law §115.00 - Criminal facilitation in the fourth degree;
- Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 274, §2 - Accessory or aiding in the commission of a felony;
- 18 Pa. C.S. §306 - Accomplice liability; and
- Va. Code Ann. §18.2-18 - Accessory before the fact.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 139, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 139 because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were

dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

140. Sudan's conduct amounted to a violation of 18 U.S.C. §2(a) because Sudan intentionally aided, abetted and counseled the commission of a criminal act or acts of international terrorism by al Qaeda, by providing the terrorist organization with material support, resources and funding with the knowledge that al Qaeda would use such assistance to prepare for and commit such a criminal act or acts.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 140, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 140 because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

141. Sudan's conduct amounted to a violation of 18 U.S.C. §371 because it conspired with al Qaeda and others to provide it with substantial material support and resources with the shared understanding, knowledge and intent that said support and resources would be used by al Qaeda to prepare for and carry out a criminal act or acts of international terrorism.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 141, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 141 because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

142. Sudan's conduct amounted to a violation of 18 U.S.C. §2339A in that on and prior to September 11, 2001, it provided material support or resources for al Qaeda and/or conspired with al Qaeda and others to provide material support or resources for al Qaeda, with the knowledge or intent that they would be used in preparation for, or in carrying out a violation of the statutes specified in 18 U.S.C. §2339A, including 18 U.S.C. §2332b (prohibiting terrorist acts of kidnapping, assault and murder) and 49 U.S.C. §46502 (prohibiting aircraft hijacking).

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 142, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

143. Sudan's conduct amounted to a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2339A in that on and prior to September 11, 2001, it concealed or disguised the nature, location, source, or ownership of al Qaeda's material support or resources and/or conspired with Sudan's intelligence apparatus, military, police, border and customs officials, government officials, employees and agents, Sudan's banks, businesses, charity organizations, al Qaeda, al Qaeda operatives and sympathizers and others, known and unknown, to conceal or disguise the nature, location, source or ownership of al Qaeda's material support or resources, with the knowledge or intent that they would be used in preparation for, or in carrying out a violation of the statutes specified in 18 U.S.C. §2339A, including 18 U.S.C. §2332b (prohibiting terrorist acts of kidnapping, assault and murder) and 49 U.S.C. §46502 (prohibiting aircraft hijacking).

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 143, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required

144. Sudan's conduct amounted to a violation of 18 U.S.C. §2339B in that on and prior to September 11, 2001, it knowingly provided material support or resources to al Qaeda, and/or Sudan conspired to knowingly provide material support or resources to al Qaeda with Sudan's intelligence apparatus, military, police, border and customs officials, government officials, employees and agents, Sudan's banks, businesses, charity organizations, employees and agents, al Qaeda, al Qaeda operatives and sympathizers and/or others, known and unknown, with the knowledge that al Qaeda was a designated Foreign Terrorist Organization, has engaged or engages in terrorist activity or has engaged or engages in terrorism.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 144, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

145. Sudan's conduct amounted to a violation of 18 U.S.C. §2339C in that on and prior to September 11, 2001, as detailed within, it provided safe haven and training camps, introductions and meetings with other established terror organizations, military and terror training, passports and other travel documents, weapons and explosives, recruitment screening, intelligence information, and provided or collected funds for al Qaeda and/or conspired with Sudan's intelligence apparatus, military, police, border and customs officials, government officials, employees and agents, Sudan's banks, businesses, charity organizations, al Qaeda, al Qaeda operatives and sympathizers and others, known and unknown, to provide or collect funds for al Qaeda, with the intention that such funds be used, or with the knowledge that such funds were to be used, in full or in part, to carry out an act or acts of international terrorism.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 145, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

146. Sudan's conduct amounted to a violation of relevant state criminal laws on facilitating, aiding and abetting a crime, and conspiracy, including but not limited to those cited above, in that it:

a. intentionally aided, abetted and counseled al Qaeda by providing it with material support, resources and funding with the knowledge that al Qaeda would use such assistance to commit an act or acts of international terrorism; and/or

b. believing it was probably rendering aid in the form of material support or resources and funds to al Qaeda to engage in a crime, provided al Qaeda with the means or opportunity for the commission thereof and which in fact aided al Qaeda to commit the September 11th Attacks; and/or

c. conspired with Sudan's intelligence apparatus, military, police, border and customs officials, government officials, employees and agents, Sudan's banks, businesses, charity

organizations, al Qaeda, al Qaeda operatives and sympathizers and others known and unknown, to violate relevant state criminal laws on facilitating and aiding and abetting a crime and committing an act or acts of terrorism, including assault, hijacking, kidnapping and murder.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 146, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 146 because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

147. As detailed herein, the aforesaid act or acts of international terrorism:

a. involve a violent act or acts dangerous to human life, as demonstrated by the known and foreseeable outcomes of injury and death resulting from providing substantial assistance to al Qaeda terrorists;

b. were committed primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States and also transcended national boundaries in terms of the means by which they were accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, and the locales in which their perpetrators operated; and

c. appeared to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or, to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, kidnapping or assassination.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 147, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

148. The aforesaid acts of Sudan were not mere negligence, but each act individually and/or in combination with one or more acts constituted conduct that was intentional, reckless, willful and/or grossly negligent and each of those acts individually and/or in combination with one or more of those acts was a proximate cause of the September 11th Attacks and the resulting injuries

and deaths of plaintiffs' decedents.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 148, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

149. The September 11th Attacks could not have occurred absent the knowing and substantial assistance provided to al Qaeda by Sudan. Those attacks and resulting injuries and deaths were a natural, probable and reasonably foreseeable consequence of Sudan's conduct.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 149, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

150. As a result, Sudan is liable to plaintiffs for all damages resulting from the injuries and deaths in the September 11th Attacks.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 150, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

151. Plaintiffs, the surviving family members of each decedent, the decedents and their Estates have suffered and will continue to suffer past and future damages as a result of the injuries and deaths sustained in the September 11th Attacks, including but not limited to: personal injury damages, wrongful death damages, survival damages, economic damages, pecuniary loss, non-economic damages, pain and suffering, torture, imprisonment, kidnapping, fear of impending death, physical trauma, mental anguish, mental distress, grief, loss of enjoyment of life, loss of earnings, financial support, services, companionship, care, guidance, consortium, solatium, burial costs, medical and other expenses and other provable damages allowed by law.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 151, because Sudan lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations, which relate to Plaintiffs' alleged injuries. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 151, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs pray that judgment(s) for relief in the form of an award or awards of monetary damages for personal injury, wrongful death, all recoverable losses under 28 U.S.C. §1605B and 18 U.S.C. §2333 and other appropriate relief be entered on their first cause of action in favor of the plaintiffs individually and as estate representatives and against the defendant Sudan and other named Sudanese defendants, with separate awards for each plaintiff, where appropriate, plus interest, costs, punitive damages, treble damages, attorney's fees, and such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

ANSWER: Sudan denies each and every allegation and legal conclusion in Plaintiffs' demand for judgment and further denies that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested or any remedy whatsoever against Sudan. Sudan also denies this demand for judgment because Plaintiffs' aiding-and-abetting and conspiracy claims under the ATA were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

**THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION FOR PERSONAL INJURY AND
WRONGFUL DEATH DAMAGES PURSUANT TO STATE TORT LAW**

152. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all of the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

ANSWER: Sudan hereby incorporates by reference its responses to Paragraphs 1-151 of the *Ashton* Amended Complaint, set forth above.

153. On March 10, 2004, a class action complaint seeking damages for a class defined as the spouses, children, parents, siblings and legal representatives of those individuals killed in the September 11th Attacks (excluding the 19 hijackers) was timely filed against Sudan and others under the caption, *O'Neill v. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, et al*, 04-CV-01922 (GBD), and new complaint *O'Neill v. Republic of Sudan*, 18-CV-12114 (GBD) also naming Sudan as a defendant requesting class certification and updating the cause of actions based on changes in the law under

the FSIA and ATA. The *O'Neill* case currently remains pending before this Court.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 153, because they are legal conclusions and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims to which no response is required.

154. *O'Neill* asserted state tort law claims against Sudan for causing the deaths of plaintiffs' decedents in the September 11th Attacks, including claims for wrongful death, survival, aiding and abetting, conspiracy and negligence, including intentional, knowing, reckless, willful, wanton, grossly negligent and/or negligent tortious acts and omissions.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 154, because they are legal conclusions and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims to which no response is required.

155. Plaintiffs herein include members of the class defined in *O'Neill*, but to date no determination regarding class certification has been made by this Court.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 155, because they are legal conclusions and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims to which no response is required.

156. This cause of action is brought before that determination and plaintiffs present these state tort law claims to assert and protect their rights to pursue such claims, for example, in the event that the *O'Neill* class is not certified by this Court.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 156, because they are legal conclusions and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims to which no response is required.

157. Pursuant to the doctrine first declared by the Supreme Court in *American Pipe & Construction Co. v. Utah*, 414 U.S. 538 (1974), the time for plaintiffs who are members of the *O'Neill* class to bring their state law claims has been tolled from the date the *O'Neill* action was brought until this Court makes its determination on class certification.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 157, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

158. For years prior to and including September 11, 2001, Sudan, through its officials, officers, employees, agents and others, participated and associated with al Qaeda in its terrorist agenda as set forth herein; provided al Qaeda and its hijackers with substantial material support, financing and resources; knew that it was assisting a terrorist organization that had conducted and was actively planning attacks against the United States; and committed tortious acts and omissions that were intentional, knowing, reckless, willful, wanton, grossly negligent and/or negligent.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 158, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

159. Sudan's conduct was a proximate cause of the deaths, injuries and resulting damages suffered by plaintiffs, as it furnished the essential support networks, cover and funding used by al Qaeda to successfully plan and execute the September 11th Attacks.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 159, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

160. Sudan tortiously conspired, aided and abetted al Qaeda by providing substantial assistance in the form of funding, support and resources to al Qaeda and its hijackers with the knowledge that they planned to use such assistance to prepare for and conduct terrorist attacks against the United States and its citizens and/or with reckless disregard of the known probable risk that such assistance would be used for those terrorist purposes.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 160, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 160 because Plaintiffs' state-law aiding-and-abetting, conspiracy, and negligence claims were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

161. Sudan tortiously conspired with al Qaeda and others to provide al Qaeda and its hijackers with substantial material support and resources, with the shared agreement, understanding,

knowledge and intent that said support and resources would be used by al Qaeda to plan and carry out terrorist acts against the United States.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 161, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 161 because Plaintiffs' state-law aiding-and-abetting, conspiracy, and negligence claims were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

162. For years prior to and including September 11, 2001, Sudan knew that its officers, employees and agents, and Sudan's charitable organizations were engaging in illegal and/or criminal activity by using Sudan's offices, equipment and other resources to provide substantial material support and resources to al Qaeda and, that Sudan's officers, employees and agents, were al Qaeda operatives or sympathizers who were using their government positions to provide substantial assistance to al Qaeda.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 162, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 162 because Plaintiffs' state-law aiding-and-abetting, conspiracy, and negligence claims were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

163. Despite such knowledge, Sudan intentionally and/or recklessly and/or carelessly failed to properly supervise its officers, employees and agents and Sudan's charitable organizations to stop them from using Sudan's offices, equipment and other resources to provide substantial assistance to al Qaeda despite the known and/or foreseeable risk that such assistance was being used by al Qaeda to prepare and conduct a terrorist attack against the United States and its citizens.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 163, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 163 because Plaintiffs' state-law aiding-and-abetting, conspiracy, and negligence claims

were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

164. Moreover, Sudan intentionally and/or recklessly and/or carelessly selected, hired and retained as its officers, employees, agents and various individuals, who Sudan knew and/or should have known, were al Qaeda operatives or sympathizers, despite the known and/or foreseeable risk that those employees and agents would use and/or were using their government positions to provide substantial assistance to al Qaeda to prepare and conduct a terrorist attack against the United States and its citizens.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 164, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 164 because Plaintiffs' state-law aiding-and-abetting, conspiracy, and negligence claims were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

165. The aforesaid intentional, criminal, knowing, reckless, willful, wanton, grossly negligent and/or negligent acts and/or omissions of Sudan were individually and/or in combination with one or more of those acts and/or omissions a proximate, substantial cause of the September 11th Attacks and the plaintiffs' injuries, deaths and resulting damages.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 165, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 165 because Plaintiffs' state-law aiding-and-abetting, conspiracy, and negligence claims were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs pray that judgment(s) for relief in the form of an award or awards of monetary damages for personal injury, wrongful death and other appropriate relief be entered on their second cause of action in favor of the plaintiffs individually and as estate representatives and against the defendant Sudan and other Sudanese defendants, with separate awards for each plaintiff, where appropriate, plus interest, costs, punitive damages, treble damages,

attorney's fees, and such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

ANSWER: Sudan denies each and every allegation and legal conclusion in Plaintiffs' demand for judgment and further denies that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested or any remedy whatsoever against Sudan. Sudan also denies this demand for judgment because Plaintiffs' state-law aiding-and-abetting, conspiracy, and negligence claims were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

**FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR PERSONAL
INJURY AND WRONGFUL DEATH
DAMAGES PURSUANT TO THE ALIEN TORT CLAIMS ACT**

166. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all of the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

ANSWER: Sudan hereby incorporates by reference its responses to Paragraphs 1-165 of the *Ashton* Amended Complaint, set forth above.

167. *O'Neill* asserted claims under the Alien Tort Claims Act against Sudan for causing the deaths of plaintiffs' decedents in the September 11th Attacks based on violations of international law resulting in injury and death in the September 11th Attacks.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 167, because they are legal conclusions and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 167 because Plaintiffs' claims under the Alien Tort Claims Act were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

168. Plaintiffs herein include members of the class defined in *O'Neill*, but to date no determination regarding class certification has been made by this Court.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 168, because they are legal conclusions and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims to which no response is required.

169. This cause of action is brought before that determination and plaintiffs present these

Alien Tort Claims Act claims to assert and protect their rights to pursue such claims, for example, in the event that the *O'Neill* class is not certified by this Court.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 169, because they are legal conclusions and Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims to which no response is required.

170. The Alien Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. §1350, allows aliens to sue for torts committed in violation of the law of nations, international law or a treaty of the United States.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 170, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 170 because Plaintiffs' claims under the Alien Tort Claims Act were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

171. The conduct of Sudan as detailed herein to provide substantial material support, resources and sponsorship for al Qaeda and its acts of international terrorism resulting in the September 11th Attacks constitutes a clear violation of the law of nations and international law, which includes international legal norms prohibiting crimes against humanity, mass murder, genocide, torture, extrajudicial killing, air piracy, financing of terrorism, and terrorism, which can be found in and derived from, among other things, the following conventions, agreements, U.N. declarations and resolutions, and other documents:

- (1) Charter of the International Military Tribunal, Aug. 8, 1945, 59 Stat. 1544, 82 U.N.T.S. 279;
- (2) Allied Control Council Law No. 10 (Dec. 20, 1945);
- (3) Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, Dec. 9 1948, 78 U.N.T.S. 277;
- (4) Geneva Convention (IV) Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, Aug. 12, 1949, 75 U.N.T.S. 287;
- (5) Hague Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (Hijacking), Dec. 16, 1970, 22 U.S.T. 1641, 860 U.N.T.S. 105;
- (6) International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, Dec. 15, 1997, 2149 U.N.T.S. 284 (entered into force May 23, 2001);
- (7) International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, Dec. 9, 1999, 2178 U.N.T.S. 229 (entered into force Apr. 10, 2002);

- (8) U.N. Security Council Resolution 1267, U.N. Doc. S/RES/1267 (Oct. 15, 1999);
- (9) U.N. Security Council Resolution 1373, U.N. Doc. S/RES/1373 (Sept. 28, 2001);
- (10) Protocol Additional (I) to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflict, June 8, 1977, 1125 U.N.T.S. 3;
- (11) Protocol Additional (II) to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts, June 8, 1977, 1125 U.N.T.S. 609;
- (12) Statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), in Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 2 of S.C. Res.808, May 3, 1993, U.N. Doc. 8/25704, adopted unanimously by S.C. Res. 827, U.N. SCOR, 48th Sess., 3217th mtg., 16, U.N. Doc. S/PV.3217 (1993);
- (13) The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against International Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Agents, 28 U.S.T. 1975, T.I.A.S. No. 8532 (1977), implemented in 18 U.S.C. § 1121;
- (14) The General Assembly Resolutions on Measures to Prevent International Terrorism, G.A. Res. 40/61 (1985) and G.A. Res. 42/159 (1987); and
- (15) The Convention on the High Seas, April 29, 1958, arts. 14-22 (piracy), 13 U.S.T. 2312, 450 U.N.T.S. 11.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 171, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 171 because Plaintiffs' claims under the Alien Tort Claims Act were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

172. Sudan's conduct was a substantial cause of the September 11th Attacks and the plaintiffs' injuries, deaths and resulting damages.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 172, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required. Sudan further denies the legal conclusions in Paragraph 172 because Plaintiffs' claims under the Alien Tort Claims Act were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs pray that judgment(s) for relief in the form of an award or awards of monetary damages for personal injury, wrongful death and other appropriate relief be entered on their third cause of action in favor of the plaintiffs individually and as estate representatives and against Sudan, with separate awards for each plaintiff, where appropriate, plus

interest, costs, punitive damages, treble damages, attorney's fees, and such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

ANSWER: Sudan denies each and every allegation and legal conclusion in Plaintiffs' demand for judgment and further denies that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested or any remedy whatsoever against Sudan. Sudan also denies this demand for judgment because Plaintiffs' claims under the Alien Tort Claims Act were dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR PUNITIVE DAMAGES

173. Plaintiffs reallege the above paragraphs as if fully set forth herein. For the reasons stated above, and pursuant to § 28 U.S.C. § 1606, Sudan is liable jointly and severally, to each plaintiff for punitive damages.

ANSWER: Sudan hereby incorporates by reference its responses to Paragraphs 1-172 of the *Ashton* Amended Complaint, set forth above. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 173, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE

174. Plaintiffs re-allege the above paragraphs as if fully set forth herein. As a direct and proximate result of defendants' intentional, willful and malicious acts of terrorism on September 11, 2001, defendants have caused property damage plaintiffs severe and extensive damage in that their building became blighted; physical damage was caused to the building by parts of the World Trade Center which struck the building; asbestos and other materials from the World Trade Center struck plaintiffs' building; the building had become unsafe until the asbestos has been cleaned up; plaintiffs were required to perform extensive asbestos clean-up and clean-up for other toxic materials from the World Trade Center; the plaintiff's building has been closed for a substantial

period since September 11, 2001; tenants have not paid rent; many tenants have abandoned and will abandon the building since they claim the building cannot currently safely be occupied as required by the tenants' leases; the exterior and interior of the building will have to be replaced; carpeting in the building has to be torn up and replaced; the value of the building has been blighted and diminished; and plaintiffs have been otherwise damaged, all of which damages are continuing into the future.

ANSWER: Sudan hereby incorporates by reference its responses to Paragraphs 1-173 of the *Ashton* Amended Complaint, set forth above. Sudan also denies the allegations in Paragraph 174, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

175. By reason of the foregoing, property damage plaintiffs are entitled to recover all of their damages from the defendant.

ANSWER: Sudan denies the allegations in Paragraph 175, because they are legal conclusions to which no response is required.

DEFAULT TRIAL DEMAND

Plaintiffs demand trial by default on all issues so triable.

ANSWER: Plaintiffs' demand for a trial by default does not require a response. Sudan objects to Plaintiffs' demand because Sudan is an active litigant in this action and, therefore, there should be no trial by default. Moreover, Sudan objects to any demand for a trial by jury because 28 U.S.C. § 1330(a) provides for jurisdiction only in "nonjury civil actions brought against a foreign state" where "the foreign state is not entitled to immunity" under the FSIA.

DEFENSES AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Without assuming any burden it would not otherwise bear, and reserving its right to amend its Answer to assert additional defenses as they become known, Sudan asserts the following

defenses and affirmative defenses:

1. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction because Plaintiffs fail to establish any exception to Sudan's sovereign immunity under the FSIA, including, but not limited to, the exceptions set forth in 28 U.S.C. §§ 1605(a)(5), 1605(a)(7), 1605A, or 1605B. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1330(a).

2. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed for lack of personal jurisdiction over Sudan because Plaintiffs fail to establish any exception to Sudan's sovereign immunity under the FSIA, including, but not limited to, the exceptions set forth in 28 U.S.C. §§ 1605(a)(5), 1605(a)(7), 1605A, or 1605B. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1330(b).

3. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed for lack of personal jurisdiction over Sudan because Plaintiffs in the following actions have failed to serve Sudan with their complaints in accordance with § 1608(a) of the FSIA:

- a. *Clarke et al. v. The Republic of the Sudan*, Case No. 1:23-cv-07736 (S.D.N.Y. Aug 30, 2023);
- b. *Nolan et al. v. Republic of the Sudan*, Case No. 20 Civ. 10720 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 18, 2020) ; and
- c. *Betru et al. v. The Republic of Sudan*, Case No. 1:20-cv-10615 (S.D.N.Y. Dec 16, 2020).

4. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed for lack of personal jurisdiction because Plaintiffs fail to establish the requisite minimum contacts under the due process clause.

5. Plaintiffs' claims are barred to the extent that they already have been dismissed by the Court's order dated August 10, 2023 (ECF No. 9278).

6. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, by the applicable statutes of limitations.

7. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, under § 1704 of the Sudan Claims Resolution Act, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260, 134 Stat. 3291 (2020).

8. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, because Plaintiffs fail to establish any claim upon which relief can be granted.

9. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, because there is no causal connection between Plaintiffs' injuries and any act or omission of Sudan.

10. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, because there is no causal connection between Plaintiffs' injuries and any act or omission of any agent, official, or employee of Sudan acting within the scope of their authority.

11. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, to the extent that Plaintiffs lack standing or capacity to bring their claims against Sudan.

12. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, to the extent that Plaintiffs have failed to mitigate damages.

13. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, by the intervening acts, wrongs, omissions, recklessness, and/or negligence of other individuals, entities, or foreign states.

14. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, based on the doctrines of several liability, and/or combined or comparative fault.

15. Plaintiffs' claims are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, to the extent that Plaintiffs seek damages or other relief that is duplicative of damages, restitution, or other relief sought or recovered in other actions or through indemnification or contribution.

16. Plaintiffs' claims for damages are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, because their alleged damages are speculative and/or are not legal cognizable.

17. Plaintiffs' claims for punitive damages are barred and should be dismissed, in whole or in part, under 28 U.S.C. § 1606.

* * *

WHEREFORE, Sudan respectfully requests that the Court enter judgment in its favor and dismiss all claims asserted in the *Ashton* Amended Complaint with prejudice, and Sudan seeks such other legal and equitable relief as the Court may deem just and proper, including Sudan's attorneys' fees and other costs reasonably incurred in defense of this action.

Dated: December 4, 2024
Washington, DC

Respectfully submitted,

WHITE & CASE

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